

AFFAIRS IN BROOKLYN.

A NEW WATER COMMISSION NECESSARY.
JUDGE PRATT REFUSES TO CONFIRM THE REPORT OF THE ONE NAMED LAST SUMMER.

Judge Pratt denied in the Supreme Court yesterday the motion to confirm the report of the commission appointed last summer to examine the property of the Long Island Water Supply Company, and which reported in favor of the payment by the city of \$570,000 for the property and franchises of the company, which are bonded for \$8,000,000. This will make necessary a new commission. The old one was composed of Edward Rowe, H. W. Hunt, E. W. Bliss, Charles E. Emory and E. M. Shepard. They held many meetings, at which the interests of the city were represented by ex-Judge George G. Reynolds and A. G. McDonald, and those of the company by W. C. De Witt and T. E. Parrall. The expense to the city for counsel fees and pay of commissioners was \$200,000. There were two reports presented. The majority, Messrs. Hunt, Bliss and Shepard found the value of the company's property and franchises to be \$570,000. The minority found no definite sum, but fixed the value at nearly the figures claimed by the company—\$2,000,000. When Mayor Chapin was in office he and his fellow city officials agreed to pay the company \$1,250,000, but in the proceedings to prevent the completion of the bargain brought by William Ziegler the Court of Appeals held that the time within which the city could buy the property had lapsed.

In his decision denying the motion to confirm the award Judge Pratt also decided that a new commission should be appointed. He holds that the rights of the Water Supply Company, in its franchises and contracts with the city of New York, now the Twenty-sixth Ward of the city, were not mere gratuities revocable at will, but permanent properties beyond legislative control, except upon the fundamental conditions that they must be fairly appraised and paid for before they could be appropriated for municipal use. The report found that the company's franchise and contract did not give it any exclusive rights to purvey water to the town, and that a materially less sum was awarded than would have been allowed if it had been believed that the rights and franchises were exclusive for the term of the company's franchise. The Judge holds that the award must be set aside if the rights were exclusive and permanent. He goes into the matter at great length to show that the company's private rights, which include the right to supply water to the city, which is no more bound to supply water than milk to the people. The Legislature granted certain rights to the company for a long period to protect its money from being used to induce investors to put their money into the plant. The obligation extended for the entire period, and was a matter of business and business profit. A repeal of the rights granted by the Legislature was impossible under both State and Federal Constitutions, as they were recognized permanent property not to be taken for public use without just compensation. Hence the commission's action on an erroneous theory. When they attempted to appraise them on the hypothesis that they were mere gratuities, and since they themselves have awarded that their award for these particular rights was a materially less sum than they would have awarded upon the theory of their exclusiveness and permanence, it followed that their error involved substantial injustice to the company.

As the decision is against the city there can be no appeal taken.

THIRTY CITY OFFICIALS PLEAD NOT GUILTY.

There were thirty of the thirty-four indicted city and county officials and contractors connected with the Columbian celebration expenditures arraigned before Judge Moore in the Court of General Sessions yesterday to plead to the indictments found against them by the December Grand Jury and which Judge Moore decided not to dismiss. County Auditor Keller had already pleaded not guilty, and the indictment against him and Auditor Weber has been dismissed. Two of those indicted were absent. The formal defendants to the indictments were presented by counsel and overruled by Judge Moore. District Attorney Hilday moved to set down the trial of all the cases for April 24, and said he would object to, but one he would try. The date was not objected to, but one counsel asked for a week's notice of the case to be tried. The defendants were then arraigned in batches and pleaded not guilty to the indictments in chorus. There were three Aldermen, twenty-one supervisors, three minor city officials and three contractors arraigned. The two absentees, contractors, were represented by counsel and will plead on the day of trial.

OFFICERS FIND AN ILLICIT DISTILLERY.

Another illicit distillery was discovered in Brooklyn yesterday by Internal Revenue officers. It was on the second floor of an apparently deserted warehouse at No. 179 Furman street. When the deputies went to the place they were met by an old man, who said that they desired to look through and went away. When he failed to return the deputies went through the building. The ground floor was not occupied, but the machinery of an illicit distillery was found on the second floor, together with some whiskey. The property, worth \$1,000, was seized and destroyed. There were marks of escape to the roofs of neighboring buildings.

LEHIGH TRUSTEES ELECT OFFICERS.

The new Board of Bridge Trustees held their first meeting yesterday afternoon. All the members were present. Mayor Gilroy presided until the election of officers. Mayor Gilroy nominated James Howell for president, and he was unanimously elected. The new vice-president chosen was E. V. Skinner. Secretary Beam and Treasurer Clark were re-elected for four years. The salary of the four trustees was fixed at \$8,000, and the president at \$5,000. The trustees appointed a temporary finance committee, and will meet again in a fortnight. The plan for the new terminal arrangement in New York, including the extension of the present station and new platforms with tracks on both sides, so that double the number of trains can be handled, was approved, and it was voted to advertise for proposals for ten days.

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTERS MEET.

The Manhattan Association of Congregational ministers held its spring meeting in the Church of the Highlands yesterday. The Rev. S. H. Bray presided and the records were kept by the Rev. H. H. McFarland. The Rev. Dr. E. P. Feltman and the Rev. Messrs. Doremus, Scudder and John Kenneway were admitted to membership, and letters of dismission were granted to the Rev. Messrs. G. W. Hark, John E. Gray and W. C. Stiles.

GATHERED ABOUT THE TOWN.

Mayor Boddy has under consideration the resolutions of the Aldermen granting valuable franchises to street railroad corporations without compensation to the city, and will have ten days in which to veto them. If he does so it is expected that the thirteen Aldermen who adopted them will pass them again over his veto.

James Barnes, a brother of Assemblyman Thomas Barnes, died yesterday in a lodging house, at No. 70 Fulton street.

The Brooklyn Colored Ministerial Association has decided that no more funerals will be attended on Sundays.

A man was drowned yesterday in the Gowanus Canal at Union street. He is supposed to have been in charge of canal boat No. 2,119, L. C. Navigation Company.

The trial of Angelo Santori, who was indicted with six other Italians for killing Peter Eckles, a letter-carrier, on January 2, was begun yesterday in the Court of Oyer and Terminer.

The jury before which George Archibald was tried for the murder of Richard M. Howe, a negro, whom he shot as Howe was about to throw a billiard ball at him, failed to agree in the Court of Oyer and Terminer yesterday after being out nearly twenty hours, and was discharged. Eleven of the jury members favored acquittal.

One of the women shot by Frank Pavara at No. 2 Harris Court on Tuesday died yesterday at the Brooklyn Hospital. Mrs. Madalena Costequetta, the mother-in-law, is likely to recover.

There was considerable commotion yesterday in front of No. 124 Mercer street, at the bursting of an oil pipe of the Standard Oil Company, which runs through that thoroughfare.

James Cook, a tailor, who carried on a small business at No. 173 Division street, has been missing for two weeks. When he went away he told his wife that he was going to collect money, and would return in a few hours.

A SERGEANT TRIED FOR INTOXICATION.

Sergeant James P. Tucker, of the Mulberry street station, was tried yesterday by Judge Commissioner Martin, on a charge of Intoxication and Insurrection, charged by Captain Crockett. On March 20 Captain Crockett found Sergeant Tucker at the desk and apparently drunk. He ordered Tucker to his room.

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lightest,
sweetest, finest
cake, biscuit,
and bread,
ROYAL
Baking Powder
is indispensable in
their making.

Contrary to the Captain's orders, Tucker left the station and reported himself as sick. In his defence Tucker said that he had sat up for two nights with a sick child. On March 20 he had been suddenly taken ill and had sent for some medicine. He denied that he had taken any intoxicating drink. After March 20 he was ill for several days.

The man James T. O'Connor, of the Twenty-second Precinct, was tried on the charges of being absent from his post and using abusive language to a roundsman. The cases will be referred to the full board.

NEWS FROM NEW-JERSEY.

ELIZABETH.
SHE COULD BE HAPPY WITH EITHER.
John Becker arrived in Elizabeth on Monday from Brooklyn, where he had been vainly searching for his wife and step-daughter, whom he had not seen for five years. Twenty-four hours after his arrival he accidentally heard that his missing wife was living in Fourteenth, and had married again, she supposing that he was dead. She was a widow, twenty-six years old, when he married her, eight years ago, and has one child by a former husband. Her third matrimonial venture is with a Norwegian carpenter, Mrs. Becker, or Elckerson, does not like to part with her unlawful husband, while he in turn is reluctant to give her up to husband No. 2. The latter is undecided what steps to take in the matter and has consulted a lawyer. He may settle the difficulty by applying for a divorce.

John Kirk and Fred Debo on Tuesday night captured a burglar while he was breaking into J. W. Hakeley's house, in Madison-avenue.

NEWARK.

The Rev. Father O'Connor, of Harrison, will suggest a plan of crusade against the poolrooms next Sunday. He has called a meeting of the members of his order, who he expects will say whether or not they have lost money in betting on the races in the poolrooms. The Red-trail of Essex County yesterday received a mortgage for \$65,000 to be recorded. It was given by the Essex County Brewing Company to the Fidelity Title and Deposit Company.

EAST ORANGE.

Burglars attempted to enter the house of Charles Lath in Evergreen Place yesterday. Mr. Lath took a revolver and went to the dining-room, where he found that the back door had been opened. The burglars fled, and Mr. Lath fired several shots into the darkness, but the marauders had already gained a good distance between the house and the street. It was found that the houses of Gottlieb Peak and Mr. French had been ransacked.

OTHER SUBURBAN TOWNS.

LONG ISLAND.
BEKHOOLD FINDS MORE DYNAMITE.
A tin box containing about ten pounds of dynamite was found yesterday in the engine-room of E. V. Crandall's Whiting Works at Massport, L. I. It was found by Otto Bekhold, the anarchist who was taken from the Queens County Jail in Long Island City to Massport by Constables Koch and McDonald for that purpose. The prisoner was handcuffed, and seemed to take great delight in pointing out spots where the explosives were concealed. When he reached the factory he led the officers to the engine-room and forced up a piece of flooring. Under the flooring was found a tin box, fifteen inches long, twelve inches wide and four inches deep. The box was fitted with a padlock, and was bound with wire to keep the cover on. The box was removed to Mr. Crandall's engine, where it was found to contain a dozen bags of dynamite eight inches long and an inch thick. They were cylindrical in shape. Bekhold was then taken back to the Queens County Jail and locked up to await the action of the Grand Jury. Eight or ten anarchists, who were employed by Crandall, disappeared a day or two ago. It is not known where they went. It is supposed that they feared being arrested upon Bekhold's confession. A description of the way the bombs, which are unaccounted for, were made.

TELLING HOW HE WAS ROBBED.

Victor L. Reddingfield, of Flatbush, who was hit with a rolling pin and robbed late on Tuesday night, is confined to his bed, and made a statement yesterday. He said that he started home a little after 10 o'clock, along Rogers-avenue, when, at the place where he was found, two men accosted him. One of them asked him what time it was, and before he could answer he was hit in the stomach. He bent over from the sudden pain, then was struck with a sandbag. After that he knew nothing till he regained consciousness at 2 a. m. yesterday.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY.

WHITE PLAINS.—A man who calls himself "Professor Parker," of New York, was arrested yesterday by Chief of Police Rogers, upon the complaint of Father Tob, charging him with attempting to swindle. The "doctor" called at Father Tob's parish-house and tried to collect \$50 for medicine, which he said he had furnished to the horsekeepers of Father William O'Connell, who has the parish-house in Greenlawn. The horsekeeper at Father Tob's was absent and the clergyman told the doctor to call again. In the mean time he investigated the matter and concluded that the man was a swindler.

FORT CHESTER.—The police made a clever capture yesterday of Jacob Wolf, living in New York, who was about the suburbs, meeting clocks and watches. Yesterday the house of Louis Wolf was broken into and a gold watch and three bracelets were taken from a bureau drawer. Wolf was taken to the village lock-up, where he was searched and several pawn tickets, some jewelry, memorabilia of railroad stations, and watchmaker's tools were found.

WHITE PLAINS.—The home of E. T. Hopkins, at Hamilton-avenue, and Grace Church, had a narrow escape from ruin yesterday. A servant lit a pipe in the kitchen, which took fire. The fire department responded and saved the building, with a loss of \$200.

STATEN ISLAND.

GRIFFOIDS.—Arnold J. La Vand, whose daughter Estelle went away on Monday with Henry Meyer, the village barber, received a telegram yesterday from the young man's mother, who lives in Worcester, Mass., stating that her son and Miss La Vand had arrived safely at her home, and that a letter of explanation was left on his way to him. The telegram did not say whether the young people were married. Mr. La Vand was angry yesterday, and said that if he caught sight of Meyer he would break every bone in his body.

SALMON HELD FOR THE GRAND JURY.

The city marshal and J. V. Alexander to be tried on the charge of extortion.

The examination of City Marshal John Salmon and John V. Alexander, collector for the Retail Grocers' Association, charged with extortion and bribery in connection with their raid on the Hotel Algonquin April 5, was brought to an end before Justice Grady in the Jefferson Market Police Court yesterday. The Justice decided to hold the men on the charge of extortion in \$1,000 bail each for the action of the Grand Jury. Charles Peterson, the assistant City Marshal, also charged with extortion, will probably be discharged, it is said.

The examination on the charge of bribery will take place tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. No action has yet been taken on the charge preferred by Joseph Hartzel, and on which a search warrant was issued Tuesday night.

Only one witness was examined yesterday. John Mooney, the night clerk of the Algonquin, reported the story already published in The Tribune. After the testimony of the witnesses for the defense asked for the discharge of the prisoners on the ground that the charge of extortion had not been proved. The Justice declined to do this. The three men were again locked up, as they were unable to procure bail.

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HOME NEWS

WHAT IS GOING ON TO-DAY.

Dr. Buchanan's trial, Court of General Sessions.
New-Jersey Jockey Club race, Elizabeth, 2:30 p. m.
World's Fair Executive Committee, Governor's Room, City Hall, noon.
Paint, Oil and Varnish Club dinner, Broadway Central Hotel, evening.
Union League Club, clubhouse, evening.
Harlem Charity Ball, Harlem Open House, evening.
Twelve Club dinner, Lenox Lyceum, 8:30 p. m.
Manhattan Club election, evening.
American Numismatic and Archaeological Society, No. 17 West Forty-third, 8:15 p. m.
224 Regiment Athletic Association games, armory, 8 p. m.
Young Men's Democratic Club, Brooklyn, 8 p. m.
East Side Evening High School exhibition, No. 23 Norfolk, 8 p. m.
Homoeopathic Medical Society, Berkeley Lyceum, 8 p. m.
Rugby tournament, No. 27 West Forty-third.
Excelsior Cycle Club reception, Lyric Hall, 9 p. m.
Lecture by Mrs. H. O. Deffenbough, Berkeley Lyceum, 9 p. m.

NEW-YORK CITY.

The Rev. Dr. Simon J. McPherson, of Chicago, will deliver a discourse this evening in the chapel of the Union Theological Seminary, Park-avenue, and sixty-ninth, commemorative of Dr. J. H. Worcester, Jr., the professor of systematic theology, who died a few weeks ago.

The governors of the Manhattan Club will elect the officers to-night. Frederic E. Confort will doubtless succeed himself as president.

Postmaster Van Gout yesterday received official notice of the decision that postal employees shall be paid extra for working longer than eight hours a day.

The Tribune yesterday received \$1 from A. K. Smiley, proprietor of the Lake Mohonk Mountain House, for The Tribune Fresh Air Fund.

The monitor Miantonomoh has been put into the dry-dock again to have her bottom cleaned and painted preparatory to going down to Sandy Hook to take part in the official ceremonies of holding the American flag on the new pole between the two lights on the Highlands of Navesink on April 20.

Surgeon Nelson H. Drake, who has been at the Navy Yard about a year and was recently promoted, yesterday succeeded Surgeon C. G. Herndon as examining officer at the Marine recruiting rendezvous.

A sale in aid of the Eunice Home of the Chapel Hill Fresh Air Mission, Monmouth County, N. J., will be held at Sherry's this evening.

Philip T. Turner, business manager of Proctor's Theatre, who was arrested March 29 for failing to have nets placed beneath a trapeze performer, was discharged from custody at the Court of special Sessions yesterday. It was decided that he was not responsible for the neglect.

H. P. Hutchinson, the well-known "Old Dutch" of the Chicago Board of Trade, who has been in New York for the last few years, has sold his grocery and restaurant at No. 31 Pearl street, for \$148 to H. Meyer. "Old Dutch" says he made no money on the venture, and he is going back to Chicago.

The central office of the Children's Aid Society now occupies its new quarters in the United Charities building, No. 161 East Twenty-second-st., at Fourth-avenue.

Plans were filed in the Department of Buildings yesterday by Messrs. Horlman and slattery for a new hotel at the northeast corner of Madison-avenue and Seventy-sixth-st. The hotel will cost \$300,000 and will be ten stories high.

The Eden Musee will have an entirely new attraction next week in M. Delprade, the French "Hindoo," and two feminine assistants. M. Delprade will begin his engagement at the musee next week, presenting for the first time in New York a new and beautiful act. The rest of the bill will consist of Little Walter Leon, in his speech "Is Marriage a Failure"; the Harrison sisters in their comedy and a new Spanish dance; Lottie Mortimer, with her serpentine dance; Ando and Omme, the Japanese jugglers; and Danko Gabors Gypsy Band.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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PHILLIPS' DIGESTIBLE COCOA presents a new and valuable food beverage. It is delicious to the taste and highly nutritious. Easily digested.

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This Spring the make-up of our Boys' Suits is better than ever. More style. Finer finish, inside and out. More wear in them. That means a good deal. They grade from \$9 to \$20.

There are some fifty-cent scarfs at our lower store, 'twill pay to look at—all new shades, this season's.

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On Storage

We are now prepared to store and insure Fur and Fur Lined Garments, Rugs and Furs of every description against damage by Moths and Fire at very moderate rates.

During the Spring and Summer we will make alterations and repairs at much lower prices than in the regular season.

Articles will be called for Free of Charge, in this City, Brooklyn, Jersey City, Newark, Orange, Montclair, Mt. Vernon, Yonkers, Dobbs Ferry, Irvington, Tarrytown, Sing Sing and Staten Island.

Stern Brothers,
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ALL IN PAMPHLET FORM.

ALMANAC, 1893.—Third Edition, revised to the first of April. A really splendid number. First of the great Almanacs on the market. 350 pages. New ready. 25 cents a copy.

MILLIONAIRES.—A complete list of the 4,047 millionaires of the United States, and how they made their money. Only list ever compiled. Valuable to students, economists and promoters of new enterprises. 45 cents a copy. In flexible cloth, \$1.

NEW NAVY.—All the new warships described, with illustrations, and including a list of the old navy, armaments, etc. 45 cents a copy.

WASHINGTON CENTENNIAL.—The great celebration in New York City, April 30, 1893, with the speeches of Cleveland, Foster, Harrison, Depew and others. 10 cents a copy.

TRUE STORIES OF THE WAR FOR THE UNION.—A new collection, just out (April, 1893), of stories written by actual participants. Thrilling, pathetic and true. 25 cents a copy.

WAR STORIES.—Over 40 tales of the Civil War, by Union soldiers. Inspiring, thrilling and pathetic. Most of them written for Tribune cash prizes. 25 cents.

RIG ISSUES.—The best of Russell G. Horr's articles in The Weekly Tribune on the tariff, finance and labor. 25 cents.

VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT.—Two charming articles by B. G. Northrop, the prime mover in this work. New York City men who want to help beautify their native town in the country should read this. 5 cents a copy.

NORTHFIELD, 1892.—The exercises there. 15 cents a copy.

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"OUR CHAINKEY."—A Tribune premium. Any regular subscriber to The Tribune can get it for 50 cents. A delicious piece of fun, written by Isaac H. Bromley for the Yale annual. Profusely illustrated by Beard and Gibson.

SPEECHES.—The best of the after-dinner oratory of last winter in this city. 25 cents.

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Those fine silk-lined worsted and cheviot Spring overcoats of ours (\$25 or more) are for men that are willing to take care of their clothes.

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Everything that men and boys wear—find it at our stores.

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Cloth Capes with Ruffle Collar of Silk,

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Cloth Capes with Velvet top Cape, Silk and Lace Ruffle,

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Fine Imported Capes (Paris Novelties,) from

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Fancy Silk Waists,

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1893.

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